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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/666,684	09/20/2000	Robert A. Ward	OOP7901US	5477

7590 02/19/2002

Siemens Corporation
Intellectual Property Department
186 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, NJ 08830

EXAMINER

ADDISON, KAREN B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 02/19/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/666,684

Applicant(s)

WARD ET AL.

Examiner

Karen B Addison

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,9-13,16-18 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7,8,14,15,19,20,22 and 23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 7,8,14,15,19-20, 22-23 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 3 and 11 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The phrase "conformable material" is vague and indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 16-18 and 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kawabata (6072259).

Kawabata discloses in fig. 1 a coil support finger plate for a stator of a power generator, the coil support finger plate (18) comprising: a base, and a plurality of fingers (b) extending outwardly from the base(c) so that at least one of the plurality of fingers (b) also extends between end portions of a pair of stator coil slots (e) when positioned adjacent thereto, at least one of the plurality of fingers having a distal end portion (d) being position, and adjacent to the distal side peripheries of each of the end portions of the stator coil slots and medial portions of at least one of the plurality of fingers extends along the side peripheries of one of the end portions of the pair of stator coil slots.

Wherein, a pair of fingers of the bcoil support finger plate each extends outwardly between, an adjacent a pair of end portions of the plurality of spaced-apart stator coil slots (e). The finger plate (18) has at least a pair of finger including a first (f) finger and second finger (g) having distal end portions. wherein the first finger extends outwardly (a greater distance from the base than the second finger) and the first finger is position, and adjacent to the side peripheries of each of the adjacent pair of the end portions of the stator coil slots and space apart from distal end portions of the second finger.

Wherein medial portions of the first finger extends along the side of the peripheries of one of the pair of coil slots, and wherein the second finger extends along the side of the peripheries of another one of the pair of stator coil slots. The method is inherent base on the structural limitation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-6, 9-13, and is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawabata (6072259) in view of Cope (4160926).

Kawabata disclose a stator in fig.1 comprising: a plurality of laminations having a plurality of spaced-apart stator coils slots (16), and a coil support finger plate 18 (radially supports the slot contents) positioned at an end portion of the plurality of stator coil slots. The coil slot fingers plate has a base(C) and a plurality of fingers extending outwardly from the base(c) between the plurality of space apart stator coil slots (16). The base (C) includes a stator slot contents portion (E) positioned to underlie end portions of the stator coil slot contents and to support the end portions of the stator slot contents so that the stator slot contents support portion (E) defines a stator slot bottom at the coil support plate. Wherein the stator coil slot bottom is position between each of the plurality of spaced-apart pairs of fingers, and wherein, a pair of fingers of the plurality of fingers of the coil support finger plate each extend outwardly between an adjacent pair of end portions of the plurality of spaced-apart stator coil slots. Kawabata also shows, the finger plate having at least a pair of finger including a first finger and

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second finger having distal end portions wherein the first finger extends outwardly, (a greater distance from the base than the second finger) and the first finger is position, and adjacent to the side peripheries of each of the adjacent pair of the end portions of the stator coil slots and space apart from distal end portions of the second finger, wherein medial portions of the first finger extends along only side peripheries of one of the pair of coil slots, and wherein the second finger extends along only one side of the peripheries of another pair of stator coil slots. Kawabata does not show the slot contents.

Cope discloses in fig.1 and 2 a stator comprising: a plurality of lamination having a plurality of space- apart stator coil slots (16), including slot contents having a layer of readily conformable material (20) underlying the stator. Wherein the conformable material layer overlies and abuttingly contacts at least one stator coil so that the stator slot bottom supports both the conformable material layer and at least one stator coil for the purpose protection the stator coil from the bottom stator slot. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the power generator of Kawabata with the stator slot contents of Cope for the purpose of protecting the stator coils and securing excellent electrical insulation.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karen B Addison whose telephone number is 703-306-5855. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 4:30.

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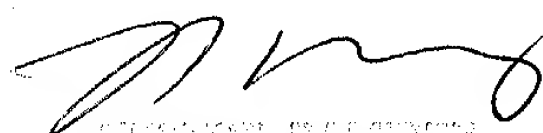
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on 703-308-1317. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3431 for regular communications and 703-305-3431 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

KBA
February 10, 2002


NESTOR RAMIREZ
SUPERVISOR/ART UNIT 2834
703-308-1317